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Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 02056 210259Z

60
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 PM-03 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 /073 W
---------- 004604
R 210145Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9936
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2056

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, NZ
SUBJ: GNZ DEREGISTERS BRANCH OF BOILERMAKERS UNION

1. PM ROWLING SIGNED ORDER JULY 18 DEREGISTERING KAWERAU BRANCH OF BOILERMAKERS UNION. DEREGISTRATION FOLLOWS LONG PERIOD OF BOILERMAKER INDUSTRIAL ACTION AND JUNE WARNING FROM MINLABOR FAULKNER THAT FURTHER DELAYS IN PULP AND PAPER PLANT CONSTRUCTION AT KAWERAU WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED. EFFECT OF DEREGISTRATION IS TO DISSOLVE KAWERAU BRANCH AS A LEGAL ENTITY. REPLACEMENT UNION CANNOT BE FORMED UNTIL GNZ HAS APPROVED NEW OFFICERS AND CHARTER. WITH CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM LOOKING TOWARD SEPTEMBER 30 COMPLETION IT IS UNLIKELY THAT GNZ WILL ALLOW NEW BRANCH OF BOILERMAKERS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT KAWERAU.

2. RESPONSE TO ACTION HAS GENERALLY BEEN FAVORABLE, BOTH WITH THE PUBLIC AND WITH THE FEDERATION OF LABOUR (FOL). SEVERAL UNIONS HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL SUPPORT GOVERNMENT ACTION AND FOL SECRETARY JIM KNOX IS TRAVELLING TO KAWERAU TODAY TO TRY TO INSURE ORDERLY CONTINUANCE OF WORK. BIGGEST PROBLEM FOR KNOX WILL BE THAT OF BOILERMAKERS' NON-UNION STATUS ON HIGHLY
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ORGANIZED CONSTRUCTION SITE.

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3. COMMENT: BY ITS NATURE DEREGISTRATION IS A HIGHLY POLITICAL DECISION. BOILERMAKER ACTIVITIES AT KAWERAU AND OTHER AREAS HAVE CAUSED MANY OF THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR INDUSTRIAL RELATION PROBLEMS DURING THE PAST YEAR. DEREGISTRATION AT THIS TIME, FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO ELCTIONS, SHOULD ANWER SOME OF THE DEMAND FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO "DO SOMETHING" ABOUT THE BOILERMAKERS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SERVING AS A WARNING TO MILITANT UNIONS THAT THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO ROCK ANY BOATS.
SELDEN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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